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PART I.

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT.

Season and Crop Report.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. C. Per. A. 107-25-26, dated 10th April 1926, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore forwarding the Season and Crop Report for 1924-1925 duly revised, with his remarks thereon.

2. Letter No. R. O. C. 1378—Hc. 380 of 25-26, dated 6th March 1926, from the Director of Agriculture in Mysore stating that the above report from the Revenue Commissioner may be adopted as he has no additions or alterations to suggest.

ORDER NO. I. C. 8108-59—STCS. 27-25-5, DATED 29TH MAY 1926.

Recorded with the observation that the delay of more than four months in the submission of the return should have been avoided.

Rainfall.—The average rainfall in the State during the year under review was 46·85 inches as against 40·74 inches in the year 1923-24. The increase was shared by all the Districts except Shimoga where the average fell from 81·70 to 80·80 inches. In July and August 1924, the rainfall was remarkably heavy in the Districts of Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga and Kadur, resulting in heavy floods and loss of crops and damage to landed and other property in the riverside villages.

Area of the State.—The area of the State is shown as 18,948,622 acres instead of 18,941,873 as in the previous year. For 13,95,833 acres no returns existed as this area consists of alienated tracts such as Jahagirs, Jodi Sarvamanya and Kayamgutta villages. Information given in the tables relates therefore only to the balance of 17,552,789 acres.

This total area differs considerably from the total area shown last year. It is explained that the difference is due to figures relating to Sidlaghatta Taluk. The causes of the large difference are stated to be under investigation. A report may be submitted to the Government not later than 1st October 1926, indicating the result of the investigation.

The total extent of 1,75,52,789 acres were made up of the various classes of land as follows.—

1.	Forests	17,66,403
2.	Unculturable land used for non-agricultural purposes.	70,86,578
3.	Cultivable waste	6,90,014
4.	Under occupancy	80,09,794

Area under occupancy showed an increase of about 50 thousand acres.

An area of 1,027,250 acres of land was irrigated during the year, while the total area of crops irrigated was 1,077,936 acres.

Specification of Crops.—The total cropped area rose from 6,144,810 to 6,549,047 acres during the year, the increase being shared by all the important crops such as paddy, ragi, cholam, groundnut, cocoanuts, etc. The area under sugar-cane fell from 34,866 to 32,029 acres, but that under crops other than sugar-cane, yielding sugar, is shown as having risen from 866 acres to 12,503 acres. The area under Indian hemp rose from 117 to 2,202 and under maize from 270 to 21,823. The decrease under sugar-cane is very likely due to an error in classification as it cannot be said that there is any other sugar-producing crop in the State which could have increased from 866 acres to 12,503 acres. The abnormal increase under maize and Indian hemp is also of doubtful correctness. The accuracy of these figures requires investigation.

Agricultural Stock.—The figures for live-stock, ploughs, carts, etc., are taken from the Census of Agricultural Stock held in March 1925, and include the figures for the Civil and Military Station, Bangalore. The total number of live-stock in the State was 89,27,783 as against 96,75,079 as per previous census. The decrease is due to the prevalence of epidemics. Of these, 38,21,546 were oxen, 7,54,120 were buffaloes, 24,92,269 were sheep, 17,43,122 were goats, 58,542 were pigs, 16,707 were horses and 41,132 were donkeys. The total number of ploughs were 8,41,784, of which 8,615 were of the new pattern. There were 2,62,474 carts in the State.

Incidence of Land Revenue.—The incidence of land revenue per head of population was Rs. 2-3-1 as against Rs. 2-0-5 in the previous year.

Exports and Imports (by rail) of the chief Agricultural Products.—Tanning barks, copra, dried fruits and nuts, grains and pulses, jawar and bajra, paddy, groundnuts and refined sugar were largely exported during the year. The export of raw cotton, cocoanut, coffee, ragi, castor, cotton seeds, unrefined sugar and jaggery, fell to a considerable extent.

Among the more important articles largely imported were raw cotton, fresh fruits and vegetables, dried fruits and nuts, grains and pulses, rice, wheat flour, castor, groundnuts, gingelly, tobacco, refined sugar and jaggery.

Wholesale Prices.—There was a general rise in the average price per palla of rice both 1st and 2nd sort, in all the Districts except Mysore and Hassan. The average price of the important staple crop of ragi rose slightly in all the Districts except in the Hassan, Tumkur and Kolar Districts.

The price of cholum fell in the Kadur District whereas it rose slightly in the Districts of Chitaldrug, Shimoga, Mysore and Bangalore.

There was a slight rise in the price of Bengal gram in the Districts of Kolar, Tumkur Mysore and Chitaldrug. It was stationary in the Shimoga and Kadur Districts and there was a fall in price in the Districts of Hassan and Bangalore.

Except in the Districts of Mysore and Chitaldrug, where the price of salt rose slightly, there was a fall in the price of the salt and it remained stationary throughout the year in the Kolar District.

Conclusion.—It is observed that figures relating to area under select crops given in parts 1 and 2 do not agree. The Revenue Commissioner states that the two parts are compiled independently from different returns and that in previous years also there has been such difference. If the differences are traced in the taluk offices, it will be possible to locate the error and give correct figures in both the returns. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to issue necessary instructions to have the differences traced and the same figures entered in both parts of the Tables.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.